

IDEA 0895
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19 September 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR : All Operating Components of the Office of Special Activities

SUBJECT : Attendance at IDEALIST Briefings

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1. In recent weeks there has been a "population explosion" in the afternoon IDEALIST briefing sessions. This has quite understandably resulted from the involvement of the Office of Special Activities in [redacted] [redacted] as well as because of heightened interest in the Cuban situation. I believe that matters have now reached a stage where corrective action is indicated, since some components are sending two or more representatives to the briefing, and we are inhibited in the timely presentation of required material at these sessions.

2. There is no intention on our part to deny anyone who has a legitimate requirement to attend these briefings from being present; however, as you know, we have historically taken considerable pains to conceal our plans including flight lines and related matters of strictly operational interest from general scrutiny. Accordingly, the following policy will apply in future IDEALIST briefings:

a. Attendance will be required by the briefing team, consisting of the duty weather officer, the senior intelligence officer present, as well as the Chief, Operations Division, and the Chief, IDEALIST Branch or their designees. Colonel Ledford or the undersigned will either be present or give prior notice to the Chief, OD/OSA, of their inability to attend. The Executive Officer, OSA, will also be present.

b. All other personnel who have not received a prior request to be present, either from the C/OD/OSA or from the Office of the AD/OSA, will refrain from attending. A review

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by the C/OD/OSA of the week's operations in IDEALIST and other programs will be presented at the OSA Staff Meeting where senior OSA personnel can be brought up to date in a more orderly manner.

3. In line with the above, I am instructing the Chief, Operations Division, OSA, to deny access to the IDEALIST briefings to all personnel except those identified in Paragraph 2. a. above.

JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Deputy Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

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